



# GOLD CLASS Weekly Newsletter

Gold Class  
St Anne's Royton

Summer Term 1  
Week 3  
10/05/19

Dear Parents,

This week we have been learning:

The children have been introduced to the letter sounds g,o,c,k. All of these letters make bouncy sounds (g...g...g...goat, o...o...o...octopus). We talked about c and k making the same sound, and that sometimes we see them together (duck, Zack, Jack).

The children have been listening to 'Fred' (our phonics frog) making words out of the sounds we know. Fred places some of the letters together and 'blends' them to make words. For example, p..a..n.., p...a...n, p...a...n, pan! The children listen to Fred doing this, then join in with him to read the word.

The children have been listening to lots of stories. This week our story has been 'Big Yellow Digger', where two children travel to Australia. We looked at a globe and found where we live, then found Australia. The children talked about Australia being on the other side of the world and we researched animals which come from Australia (kangaroo, koala, platypus, wombat, possum). We even had a go at playing a digeridoo and looked at a boomerang. In the story, the children passed a fossil of a dinosaur, so we discussed what this is too.

## Forest School Activities

This week we made 'Nature Bracelets' during forest school. The children spent time exploring and finding interesting objects to use on their bracelet. We found lots of flowers (daisies, dandelions, buttercups), feather, different shaped leaves, moss, grass and much more. The children talked about what they had found, how it felt and shared them with their friends.

## Homework

Please continue to revise the letter sounds which we have covered so far (m,a,s,d,t,i,n,p). This week we have introduced the sounds g,o,c,k and have sent them home for you to practice.

We have also sent home some words that are made with the sounds we have learnt (there are lots more words you can make, this is just a selection). The words are for YOU to model reading with your child (not for your child to read yet). Choose a word and tell your child that you are going to say the sounds then 'blend' them together. Each time you say the sounds, say them closer together until you say the word, for example, 'p.....e.....n, p..e..n, p.e.n. pen'. We usually say the sounds three times before saying the word.

Please practice the correct letter formation with your child. If children get into bad habits with handwriting (e.g. doing a circle and a stick for 'a') it can be very hard to correct at a later age. We use this site for letter formation:

<http://www.doorwayonline.org.uk/literacy/letterformation/>

If you need any support with this, please ask for help!

Thank you for your support,  
Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Russell.